

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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## RAILROAD CRISIS CAUSES SUSPENSION OF TROOP ENTRAINMENT

### 300 LOST AS BATTLESHIP IS BLOWN UP

**Big Italian Warship Takes Fire While in Taranto Harbor and Explosion Follows—Believed That 300 of Crew Were Drowned—Dreadnaught, Beached by Captain, May Be Righted and Refloated, Rome Reports.**

Paris, Aug. 15.—The Italian dreadnaught Leonardo Da Vinci caught fire and blew up in the harbor of Taranto, Italy, and 300 of her crew were drowned, says a Turin despatch to the Petit Journal.

The date of the disaster is given only as a day in August. The fire, the despatch says, was discovered in the dreadnaught's kitchen and spread rapidly.

The captain immediately ordered the magazines flooded and tried to beach the battleship but one magazine exploded before this could be done.

The vessel was turned over on her side and a large number of the crew were thrown into the sea. It is believed that the battleship can be righted and re-floated.

The Leonardo Da Vinci was a sister ship of the Conte Di Cavour and of the Giulio Cesare and was launched in October, 1911. Her displacement was 22,000 tons and she was 575-1-2 feet long, 51-4 feet beam and carried a total company of 357 men. Her main battery consisted of 13 12-inch guns and her secondary battery to stand off attack was composed of 18 18 4.7-inch guns. Her engines were of 24,000 horsepower, designed to develop a speed of 22.5 knots.

### ITALIAN ADVANCE GUARD 13 MILES FROM TRIESTE; AUSTRIAN FLEET LEAVES

Geneva, Aug. 15.—The Italian advance guard, advancing southeast from Gorizia, is within 13 miles of Trieste, whence the greater part of the Austrian fleet has sailed for an unknown destination, according to a telegram from Buchs, Switzerland, today.

#### AUSTRIANS LEAVE TOLMINO.

Paris, Aug. 15.—Italian troops have entered the suburbs of Tolmino which is under continuous shelling, according to a despatch to La Liberte from Turin today. The Austrians, says the despatch, are evacuating the city.

#### GERMANS ADMIT LOSS.

Berlin, Aug. 15.—After attacks of the greatest violence on the Somme front, continuing until late last night, the British obtained a footing in first line German trenches on the Thiepval-Pozieres front, the Air office announced today.

Paris, Aug. 15.—French troops captured German trenches on a front about 300 yards long and 100 yards deep north of the Chapel of Sainte Fina, at the intersection of the Fleury and Vaux roads on the right bank of the Meuse, in the Verdun sector, last night, says the war office statement. On the Somme front the French artillery was very active at Bellefleur, Bessieres and Lihons.

#### BRITISH RETAKE TRENCHES.

London, Aug. 15.—Nearly all of the remaining trenches northwest of Passchendaele on the Somme front, in which the Germans gained a footing on Sunday, have been retaken, the war office announced today.

#### Russians Push Advance.

Petrograd, Aug. 15.—The rapid Russian advance in Galicia continues. Russian troops are crossing to the western banks of the Zlota Lipa and the Bystritsa-Solotva and are moving

### NOTIFICATION OF PRESIDENT TO BE HELD ON SEPT. 2

Washington, Aug. 15.—Formal notification to President Wilson of his re-nomination will take place September 2. That date was finally selected today. The President already has completed his speech of acceptance. The notification speech will be made by Senator James.

The President probably will remain at Long Branch until he leaves for Hodgenville, Ky., to speak September 4, at the Lincoln ceremony.

#### MURDER SCARE IN EARLY MORNING HOURS

Residents of Capitol avenue received a murder scare about 4 o'clock this morning when four revolver shots were heard and someone cried "Murder!" People in the houses poked their heads out of the windows expecting to see a revolver fight but all that could be seen was a man, immediately walking up the street.

### WHEAT PRICES TAKE ANOTHER SKYWARD LEAP

Chicago, Aug. 15.—The wheat market made another sensational advance on crop damage reports today. December options 40 minutes before the close had advanced an extreme eight cents from \$1.38 to \$1.46 per bushel. September, less active, rose from \$1.35 where it sold early, to \$1.42.

#### SUE DANBURY WOMAN.

Injunction proceedings have been brought against Verna L. Woodin of this city by William and Martha Tenes of Danbury, who claim their property has been damaged because the drainage from the adjoining Woodin place flows upon it. The plaintiffs declare this drainage causes obnoxious odors and creates unhealthy conditions. In addition to an injunction they ask the common pleas court to allow \$250 damages.

### TWO CHILDREN DIE TODAY OF POLIOMYELITIS

Geraldine Kunkel and Everitt Cumile Bring Fatality Total to 12.

#### ONE GIRL RECOVERS, THEN GETS MEASLES

Mayor to Call Special Council Meeting on City Hospital Matter.

Two deaths of poliomyelitis occurred within 40 minutes of each other this morning. Geraldine Kunkel of 147 Denver avenue and Everett Cumile of 611 South avenue are the victims. The Kunkel child died at 5 o'clock, and the other at 4:20. From Hillside home this morning came the report that Nellie Boywid of 1159 Howard avenue, is dangerously ill of the malady. No new cases were reported today.

Anna Brown of 137 Madison avenue, who has recovered from poliomyelitis, now has measles. Quarantine was lifted today at the home of Joseph Coles, 463 Fairview avenue. Mayor Wilson will call a special meeting of the board of aldermen before the end of this month for the purpose of planning to raise money for the new city hospital. A bond issue will be authorized, the mayor expects, on the strength of the recommendation expected from the Bridgeport Medical society.

A five-acre lot will be purchased, it is planned, by private subscription. It became known today that almost enough money for the city hospital has been pledged by private persons to pay for the whole building, but because somebody pointed out that it is a public obligation to build a city hospital, the private funds will be used only for "getting the thing started."

It is planned to have the Bridgeport Medical society appoint the staff of the institution. A special meeting of the organization will be held at 5 o'clock tomorrow evening, when a vote will be taken on the type of building desirable and the cost advisable. June 1 has been set as the date when the new milk regulations will be put into effect.

Dr. Sophian conferred with Superintendent of Police J. H. Redgate today concerning cruises, and learned that no more permits will be issued. The one that is in this city now, received its permit before the order barring shows was issued.

#### Deaths in New York Show Large Increase

New York, Aug. 15.—The epidemic of infantile paralysis has taken a turn for the worse despite the continuation of unusual cool weather. During the 24 hours ending at 10 a. m. today, 163 new cases of the disease and 39 deaths were reported to the health department. This is an increase in new cases of nearly 100 per cent. over yesterday's figures which showed 95 were stricken with the plague and 31 deaths. Failure of physicians to report cases over the Sunday holiday was suggested as a reason for the increase in today's figures. Since the epidemic began there have been 6,532 cases and 1,463 deaths.

New Jersey state-wide quarantine against the plague was put into effect today. Special guards were placed at all terminal points to prevent children under 15 years old from entering the state and local restrictions of the most stringent character were ordered at the various coast resorts. Building operations on many of the large private estates have been suspended.

#### STATE HEALTH BOARD RECOMMENDS SCHOOLS OPEN AT REGULAR TIME

The state board of health will recommend that the school boards throughout Connecticut plan, at present, to reopen the public schools at the usual time, as it is believed that ample arrangements can be made for properly protecting the children from infantile paralysis.

Should a later date be advisable for the opening, because of changed conditions, action can be taken at any time.

### POWDER TRAIN IS HELD UP IN JERSEY YARDS

Jersey City, Aug. 15.—R shipment of 44 cases of black powder over the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, consigned to the United States government for use at Fort Totten, N. Y., was held up today by the police under the municipal order prohibiting shipments of explosives into the city, promulgated after the Black Tom disaster.

The right of the city to hold up shipments is now being tested in the courts in the interest of the Lackawanna.

#### MARRIAGE LICENSE.

Peter Barry, 21, gardenpr, 24 Lexington avenue and Anna Sello, 18, factory worker of Fairfield, procured a marriage license here today. The bride had parental consent.

### BRIDGEPORTERS FARE POORLY IN SCHOOL BERTHS

Only One of 13 Selected For High Salaried Teaching Posts is Resident.

#### APPOINTMENTS ARE SLAWSON'S CHOICE

Commissioners Approve His List Without Comment—Personnel of Teachers.

Of the 13 teachers for high salaried positions in the public schools by the board of education last night, only one, Edwin Cooper, appointed instructor in the printing department of the Pre-vocational school, is a resident of Bridgeport. He has been a resident here only two years, having been instructor at the State Trade school. His salary is \$1,100 per year. If his experience and the special courses he has taken count for anything, Mr. Cooper ought to fill the position well. He has taken special courses at the Technical School and at the Institute of Chicago and at the type school of the Mergenthaler Linotype Co., Brooklyn, N. Y. During the past year he followed special work for vocational teachers offered at Yale by the Connecticut State Board of Education, and took a course in Salesmanship and Efficiency at Bridgeport Y. M. C. A. and a course in Instruction in Vocational Guidance and Character Analysis by Miss Jessie Fowler of New York.

This summer is taking a special course for vocational instructors at Technical School, Indianapolis, Ind. His experience has been two years with the State Trade School, this city, the past winter having charge of night classes in printing; experience in editing, managing and ownership of weekly newspapers, serving apprenticeship for the same when a youth. He has also worked for job printing concerns, publishing houses, etc. As second vice president of the International Association of Teachers of Printing and chairman of the Committee on Standardization of Courses of the association he has now the task of arranging a scheme of courses in printing adapted to pre-vocational, vocational or high, and trade or technical schools.

Mr. Cooper is a graduate of the Worcester High school, has spent three years at the Mt. Hermon High school and has done special work in history, economics, literature, psychology, and pedagogy at Clark college, Worcester, and the summer school, Northfield, Mass. The principal for the Pre-vocational school is yet to be named but it is reported that he will come from out of town also. Gerald S. Prattis of Spring Valley, N. Y., was last night named vice-principal of the Pre-vocational school. The salary will be \$1,200. Mr. Prattis is a graduate of the State College for Teachers, Albany, and took his masters' degree at Columbia. His experience has been two years teaching at Spring Valley.

The appointments were all made last night on the recommendation of Dr. Samuel J. Slawson, superintendent of the public schools. Members of the board accepted the recommendations and confirmed the appointments without comment. Besides those named above, other appointments, their education, experience and salaries are:

Katherine Fall, Somersworth, N. H.; education, Somersworth High school, 1908, Elmira College, 1914; experience, Painted Post, N. Y., two years. Salary \$1,000.

(Continued on Page Two.)

### SUPPLY SMALL, BUILDING STONE JUMPS IN PRICE

Contractors Hear of Thefts From Farmers' Lots, So Acute Is Condition.

Lack of foundation material for buildings in Bridgeport is so acute that the ordinary field stones in outlying sections of this city and Stratford have taken on an unprecedented value and in some instances have required owners of tracts of property to post night watchmen to prevent theft.

Building stone, which heretofore has commanded between three and four cents per cubic foot is now quoted at from seven to eight cents per cubic foot. The average contractor's two horse load is roughly estimated at a value of \$4.50 to \$5 according to quality.

This condition, especially where short hauls are available, has made the practice of theft in the night extremely prevalent. This is found to have been carried on to such an extent in Stratford that half a dozen teams have been employed by the thieves between midnight and dawn and in one Stratford instance it is said that rock-breakers were put to work during the night to break up large boulders for removal.

Farmers whose land is replete with smooth round cobblestones, have found tidy fortunes awaiting them in the erection of bungalow porches and lower stories of stucco buildings.

Builders declare that there is a great demand for an up-to-date quarry with facilities for breaking and loading foundation and other building stone.

## PRESIDENT OFFERS NEW PLAN TO END RAILROAD DISPUTE

### FEARING R. R. STRIKE, WAR DEPT. SUSPENDS TROOP MOVEMENTS

**Additional Troops of Three States, Totalling 25,000 Men, Will Not Proceed to Duty at Border—Action Does Not Mean Failure of President's Intervention, Says Washington, But is Merely a Precaution.**

Washington, Aug. 15.—Orders for the remaining mobilized units of the national guard to proceed to the border have been suspended by the war department.

No official explanation has been made, but it is known that the delicacy of the railroad strike situation has been the moving consideration.

The suspension of the orders to the troops, which would have moved some 25,000 men to the border, should not be taken as an indication that the President's negotiations with the railroad brotherhoods and the railroad managers have taken an unfavorable turn, but in a measure of caution.

It was considered highly undesirable that all the remaining guardsmen should be moved to the border while there was a possibility of a railroad strike in which they might be called upon to preserve order throughout some of the states. There is even the possibility that some of the troops in the event of a strike, might be called upon to guard or operate mail trains and trains supplying the troops already at the border.

The suspension of the orders prevents the immediate movement of the troops from Kentucky, Ohio and Vermont and the movement of all other mobilized units which were to have gone forward as soon as they were equipped. Some of the Kentucky, Ohio and Vermont troops were about ready to go to the border.

It is clear that the suspension is not a revocation of the orders and that if

### BREMEN OWNERS REJECT THIS CITY AS POSSIBLE PORT FOR ENTRY OF TRANSOCEAN "SUBS"

Consideration of Bridgeport as a possible destination of the German undersea cargo-carrying boat Bremen has been definitely and unfavorably concluded by officials of the Eastern Forwarding Co.

The Farmer is in a position to assert authoritatively today that after investigations made by Paul G. Hilken, representative of the forwarding company, the offices of which are in Baltimore, Bridgeport waters have been found unsuitable for the arrival and departure of the German built submarines.

Upon information from an authentic source it may be asserted that New London is also unlikely to be a port of call for the Bremen or Deutschland and that unless circumstances change materially in the future Baltimore will remain a permanent terminal for these boats.

Negotiations have been carried on with Mr. Hilken looking toward the sale or lease of the Pehr West property at the foot of Pembroke street.

### BRIDGEPORT WILL HAVE 3,000 MEN IN LABOR PARADE

More than 3,000 union members from Bridgeport will march in the great Labor Day parade at Hartford, Sept. 4. The Bridgeport delegation is expected to be the most impressive, as it was at New Haven last year.

Members of the building trades organizations will have a special train leaving here at 7:40 o'clock. Automobile and motor trucks will carry others.

The carpenters' delegation probably will be the largest. Business Agent Martin Kane said this morning that he expects about 1,000 in the crowd. They will wear white hats, white shirts, red, white and blue ties and dark trousers. Each man will carry a cane and pennant, bearing the words "Bridgeport Carpenters." A short parade will be held here prior to boarding the special train. The Coast Artillery band will accompany the local.

The plumbers and steamfitters will have about 125 in line. They will wear white felt hats, soft shirts and carry green pennants with "Local No. 153" (Continued on Page Two.)

Managers, in Conference at White House, Agree to Accept the Principle of the Eight-Hour Day, With the Interstate Commerce Commission To Aid In Its Working Out.

**Employees To Be Told Arrangement This Afternoon and Definite Action May Come Shortly—Managers Are Silent Today After Long Meeting With President Wilson.**

Washington, Aug. 15.—After the committee of railroad managers had another conference with President Wilson today it became known that a proposal was under consideration by which the railroads would accept the principle of an 8 hour day and leave the working out of its application to the interstate commerce commission or some body formed for the purpose.

Whether this plan can be worked out will not be known until President Wilson presents it to the brotherhood leaders.

The railroads are understood to be ready to concede the principle of the eight-hour day, providing concessions be made by the employees so too heavy a burden will not be placed upon the railroads.

The men take the stand that they principally want the eight hour day on conditions that it shall be enforced whenever possible. The railroads are said to believe it impossible to accept the eight-hour day unless a workable system of application can be built up. Members of the managers' committee said they had no plans for the future and did not know whether they would be called to the White House again.

The managers took the position that the eight-hour day and the collateral issues are inseparable and that it would not be practicable to accept the eight-hour day and submit the other question to arbitration.

All of the issues are interwoven, they contended, and must be decided together.

None of the brotherhood officials would commit himself on what the attitude of the employees would be towards such a proposal but they did not appear optimistic over the likelihood of it proving acceptable. If such a proposition were tendered in conclusive form to them, it was pointed out, they would only refer it to the general board, composed of 600 committeesmen now in New York.

Secretary Tumulty issued the following statement:

"The President spent an hour and a half this morning with the representatives of the railway management. After the conference he said that it was impossible as yet to report on the results all that he could say was that a very candid and honest discussion was in progress about practical basis of settlement."

The representatives of the board of railway managers were the first to meet the President today. Before the conference Elisha Lee, the managers' chairman, refused to say whether a counter-proposal for submission to the employees had been drawn up.

The members of the committee looked haggard from their prolonged meeting which lasted until an early hour this morning. They straggled into the White House by twos and threes. All were ready for the President when he entered the conference room promptly at 8 o'clock.

"At this stage of the proceedings I can say absolutely nothing," said Mr. Lee as he entered the White House. He carried a portfolio of papers. After an hour and a half of conference with the President, the managers' committee left the White House by a side door, hoping to evade questioners. Elisha Lee, the chairman said:

"We are entirely in the President's hands and have agreed with him that he will make any statement."

#### GAS METER CUTS HEAD.

A gas meter slipping from his hands as he held it while a fellow employee of the Bridgeport Gas Light Co. detached it this morning, struck 16 year old Theodore McCormick of 37 Reservoir avenue on the head, scattering it. At the emergency hospital Dr. J. F. Canavan closed the gap in McCormick's scalp.

#### THE WEATHER

Generally fair tonight, Wednesday, showers; light west winds.